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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/559,619

04/18/2006

Kazutaka Matsuzawa

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SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, N.W.
SUITE 800
WASHINGTON, DC 20037

EXAMINER

PRICE, CRAIG JAMES

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3753

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/559,619	Applicant(s) MATSUZAWA ET AL.	
	Examiner Craig Price	Art Unit 3753	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 April 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 December 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/2/2005, 8/9/2006</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2 and 4-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Taillandier (6,354,348).

Taillandier discloses, as shown in Figures 3 and 4, a valve for a safety tire, equipped with a charging opening for charging gas into an outer gas chamber and an inner gas chamber, which are provided in a tire having a double structure. The valve for a safety tire comprising, an air-supply passage (15,31) for an inner gas chamber, which causes the charging opening and the inner gas chamber to communicate with each other, and an air-supply passage (27) for an outer gas chamber, which causes the charging opening and the outer gas chamber to communicate with each other, and a non-return valve member (43) for an inner gas chamber, provided in the air-supply passage for an inner gas chamber, the non-return valve member for an inner gas chamber allowing gas to flow from the atmospheric side into the gas chamber and making it possible to prevent gas from flowing from the gas chamber into the atmosphere, and also allowing gas to flow from the gas chamber into the atmosphere by carrying out a predetermined operation (such as the operation of removing 45), a non-return valve member (50) for an outer gas chamber, provided in the air-supply

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passage for an outer gas chamber, the non-return valve member for an outer gas chamber allowing gas to flow from the atmospheric side into the gas chamber and making it possible to prevent gas from flowing from the gas chamber into the atmosphere, and also allowing gas to flow from the gas chamber into the atmosphere by carrying out a predetermined operation (such as the operation of removing 49). An engaging portion (the external flange shown at the top of the valve near 15 and 27) that allows a filling adapter (61) with a coupler (66) to be mounted at the charging opening in only a fixed direction, which filling adapter includes a first passage (62) that can supply gas to the inner gas chamber by communicating with the air-supply passage for an inner gas chamber, and includes a second passage (27, see Figure 4) that can supply gas to the outer gas chamber by communicating with the air-supply passage for an outer gas chamber so as to make a pressure difference between the outer gas chamber and the inner gas chamber, the engaging portion allowing the filling adapter to be mounted so that the air-supply passage for an inner gas chamber communicates with the first passage and the air-supply passage for an outer gas chamber communicates with the second passage.

Regarding claim 2, Taillandier discloses that a detachment- restraining means (49) for restraining detachment of the non-return valve member for an outer gas chamber is provided in the air-supply passage for an outer gas chamber at a position nearer to the charging opening than the non-return valve member for an outer gas chamber.

Regarding claim 4, Taillandier discloses that a filling adapter (61) with a coupler

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(66), which engages with a valve for a safety tire equipped with an air-supply passage for an outer gas chamber for charging gas into an outer gas chamber of a tire having a double structure, and an air-supply passage (62) *for an inner gas chamber for charging gas into an inner gas chamber of the tire, so as to charge gas from a gas supply source into the outer gas chamber and into the inner gas chamber via the air-supply passage for an outer gas chamber and the air-supply passage for an inner gas chamber* (this limitation “for an inner gas chamber...for an inner gas chamber” is considered as an intended use statement bearing no patentable weight), the filling adapter comprising, a main body portion (30) engaging with the valve for a safety tire, a second coupling (49) provided in the main body portion and including a valve core (50) connectable to a pressure source to allow gas from the pressure source to be supplied to the tire, an air chamber (32) provided in the main body portion and connected to the second coupling, a first passage (15,31) provided in the main body portion and causing the air chamber and the air-supply passage for an inner gas chamber to communicate with each other, a second passage (32) provided in the main body portion and causing the air chamber and the air-supply passage for an outer gas chamber to communicate with each other, and differential pressure setting means (43, piston, Col.4, Lns. 10-15) provided in the second passage and distributing gas from the gas supply source to the first passage and the second passage so as to generate a pressure difference there between, and a first coupling (45) connected to the second passage and allowing gas in the outer gas chamber to be released to the atmosphere by carrying out a predetermined operation (such as the operation of removing 45).

Regarding claim 5, Taillandier discloses that a pressure releasing adapter (33) used in a safety tire-rim assembly equipped with a pneumatic tire (P), an expandable air pocket (around Po) provided within the pneumatic tire and forming an inner gas chamber, a rim (10) which forms an outer gas chamber between the pneumatic tire and the air pocket when the pneumatic tire and the air pocket are mounted, and the valve for a safety tire according to claim 1, the pressure releasing adapter being used to release gas both in the inner gas chamber and in the outer gas chamber to the atmosphere (Col. 3, Lns. 57 -60), and comprising, a main body portion (30) that can engage with the valve for a safety tire, and operating means (39) provided in the main body portion and causing gas in the inner gas chamber and gas in the outer gas chamber to be released to the atmosphere so as not to expand the air pocket, by carrying out a predetermined operation (such as the operation of removing 33 and 39) with respect to the non-return valve member for an inner gas chamber and the non-return valve member for an outer gas chamber of the valve for a safety tire when the main body portion is engaged with the valve for a safety tire.

Regarding method claims 6 and 7, the device shown by Taillandier will perform the methods as recited in claims 6 and 7, during normal operational use of the device.

Regarding claim 8, Taillandier discloses that the pressure releasing method according to claim 7, wherein the operating means includes a first protruding portion for operating the non-return valve member for an inner gas chamber, and a second protruding portion for operating the non-return valve member for an outer gas chamber,

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and the first protruding portion (the protruding portion of 45 is longer than 49, as shown in Figure 3) is longer than the second protruding portion.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Craig Price whose telephone number is (571)272-2712. The examiner can normally be reached on 7AM - 5:30PM Mon-Thurs, Increased flex time.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Greg Huson can be reached on (571) 272-4887. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CP
/C. P./
Examiner, Art Unit 3753

20 June 2008

/John Rivell/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3753